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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

VICKERS et al

Serial No. Unassigned

Filed: May 25, 2001

For: TREATMENT OF HYPERTENSION

Atty. Ref.: 3911-7

Group:

Examiner:

11/2/aa

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May 25, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) A method has claimed in claim 1 wherein the mammal has experienced an adverse postnatal environment comprising a hypocaloric or hypercaloric diet.

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